Disney COMICS

DONALD DUCK

SUPER DUCK

ISSUE 12

RUMBLERU MBLERU

I - PK - 13

RRRUUUMMMBLEEE
CREATURES OF THE ABYSS
Walt Disney

A JOB BY THE SEA? *I'LL TAKE IT!*

I'LL NEED NEW SWIMMING TRUNKS. AND I KNOW I HAD SOME TANNING LOTION AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE...

DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW *WHAT* THIS JOB IS?

LET'S NOT WASTE TIME WITH DETAILS, *ONE!* DIDN'T YOU SAY IT WAS JUST SOME KIND OF SUPERVISION?

MORE OR LESS.

WELL, I WAS AN ASSISTANT LIFEGUARD ONCE AND I MANAGED QUITE WELL! I STILL REMEMBER THAT LAST-MINUTE RESCUE... *TERRIBLE!*

YOU SAVED A SWIMMER?

UMM... NO. IT WAS A SWIMMER WHO SAVED ME.

MY WATER WINGS DEFLATED, AND I COULDN'T TOUCH THE BOTTOM!

HEE! HEE!

ABOUT THIS JOB, THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN A MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE CONCEPT OF *"SEA"*.

SORRY?

WELL, IN THIS CASE, IT WOULD BE MORE CORRECT TO SAY *OCEAN!*

BETTER AND BETTER!

LET'S SEE IF I CAN GUESS... WE'RE ABOUT TO SET OFF FOR AN EXOTIC LOCATION. MAYBE A BEAUTIFUL LITTLE *ISLAND* IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PACIFIC!

DESERTED BEACHES, BLUE SKIES, WILD NATURE... AND *ALL KINDS OF STRANGE FISH!*

THERE WILL CERTAINLY BE PLENTY OF *THOSE*.

PROTEUS BASE CALLING *ALPHA ONE*. ESTABLISH AUDIOVISUAL CONTACT.

REPEAT: PROTEUS BASE CALLING...

BZZZWZZZ... OKAY, BUD! I CAN HEAR YOU!

AND YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO HEAR AND SEE ME NOW!

YES, STANLEY, YOU'RE LIVE. REMEMBER NOT TO PICK YOUR NOSE!

YOU KNOW, THAT DIVING SUIT LOOKS *GOOD* ON YOU! I CAN HARDLY SEE YOUR FACE!

VERY FUNNY!

SO HOW'S IT GOING DOWN THERE?

QUITE A *LOVELY* LITTLE SPOT, BUD. A LITTLE *DAMP*, MAYBE.

I LEFT ROGER IN THE MODULE. HE'S GOING TO START DIGGING SOON. I'M GOING TO PATROL THE AREA, AND *STRETCH* MY LEGS.

IF YOU WANT TO *TAG ALONG*, I'LL START THE HELMET VIDEO CAMERA.

OKAY!

CLIC

DONE! NICE TO SEE THINGS THE SAME WAY, EH?

SURE IS.

RRRUUMBLE

SKAKRAAK

GOOD MORNING! YOU'RE DONALD DUCK, RIGHT?

YES... I THINK SO.

YOU LOOK A BIT WORN-OUT, FRIEND! WERE YOU SEA-SICK?

ONLY FOR THE FIRST HALF-HOUR... THEN I PASSED OUT.

GULP!

FRASH

WELL, I'M DOCTOR WILLEM BORTON. BUT EVERYONE CALLS ME *WILL*, AND SO SHOULD YOU!

NICE TO MEET YOU!

JUST OUT OF CURIOSITY... IS THE SEA ALWAYS LIKE THIS AROUND HERE?

NOT AT ALL! IT'S STRANGELY *CALM* TODAY!

IN ANY CASE... I USUALLY SEE IT FROM *UNDERNEATH*... IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM DOWN THERE!

NOW LET'S GET A MOVE ON! THE ELEVATOR IS WAITING FOR US!

THE ELEVATOR?

CLIC

EXACTLY! YOU'LL SEE, IT'S A REAL MASTERPIECE OF ENGINEERING! WE'RE ALL VERY PROUD OF IT, HERE ON THE BASE!

WOOOSH

IT'LL TAKE A MOMENT. WE ONLY HAVE TO GO DOWN *ONE FLOOR*... BUT IT'S *10,000 FEET* BELOW!

NOW WHERE, BUD? I VOTE FOR GOING *BACK!*

FURTHER AHEAD, ON YOUR RIGHT, THERE'S A CAVE... I'D LIKE TO SEE IT UP CLOSE!

OKAY. I'LL *ZOOM* IN WITH THE CAMERA!

STANLEY!

OKAY... OKAY... JUST KIDDING!

I DON'T LIKE THIS PLACE, BUD, I DON'T LIKE IT! WHERE DID ALL THE FISH GO?!

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? FEELING *LONELY?*

BAH!

WH-WHAT THE...

GLUUUSH

STANLEY?

!

YOU KNOW, DONALD, I WAS IMAGINING SOMEONE DIFFERENT...

I HOPE I HAVEN'T *DISAPPOINTED* YOU TOO MUCH, WILL.

NO, ONLY SURPRISED. I THOUGHT A *HEAD OF SECURITY* WOULD BE A BIT... LARGER.

I'VE BROUGHT GUYS MUCH *BIGGER* THAN ME TO THE FLOOR, BELIEVE ME.

OF COURSE I BELIEVE YOU! AND YOUR JOB APPLICATION WAS SELECTED BY OUR INFALLIBLE COMPUTER SYSTEM...

... WHICH WILL HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY *ONE!*

DLON DLON

HERE WE ARE!

WOOOSH

WELCOME TO THE *PROTEUS BASE*, DONALD!

QUACK!

THIS PLACE MAKES AN IMPRESSION THE FIRST TIME BUT YOU'LL GET USED TO IT SOON ENOUGH. THEN YOU'LL ONLY HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT *GETTING BORED!*

DOWN HERE, *EVERYTHING* AND *EVERYONE* FUNCTIONS PERFECTLY. THE *PROJECT* IS ERROR-PROOF... AND *SECURITY* IS THE LAST OF OUR PROBLEMS!

DON'T WORRY. I'VE NEVER HAD A PROBLEM WITH *INACTIVITY*.

BUT WHAT *EXACTLY* DO YOU MEAN BY "*PROJECT*"? I KNOW YOU'RE DOING GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS DOWN HERE.

RIGHT. WE CAME TO THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN, TO START *DIGGING!*

AND HAVE YOU FOUND ANYTHING INTERESTING?

I'M SORRY, FRIEND. IF I STARTED REVEALING CERTAIN INFORMATION, *DOCTOR KRAVER* WOULD KICK ME OFF THE BASE, WITHOUT A DIVING SUIT...

EEEEEEE

THE ALARM!

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ALL MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND SECURITY STAFF TO SECTOR ALPHA!

YOU KNOW, AT LEAST TEN MINUTES OF BOREDOM WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN BAD.

OKAY! TO WORK!

THAT WAY!

UMM... WHERE EXACTLY IS *SECTOR ALPHA?*

STANLEY, WAKE UP!

THAT'S RIGHT, *VERY GOOD!*

DOCTOR KRAVER! *WHAT HAP-PENED?!*

THAT'S WHAT I WAS ABOUT TO ASK YOU! YOU'VE GIVEN US QUITE A FRIGHT!

ALL I CAN REMEMBER... ARE THOSE EYES, IN THE DARK. AND THE *TENTA-CLES* TRYING TO GRAB ME. THEN IT ALL WENT BLACK!

HEY!

EYES AND TENTACLES! I SAW THEM TOO, ON THE MONITOR, JUST FOR A SECOND, BEFORE WE LOST AUDIOVISUAL CONTACT!

TELL HER, BOB! I DIDN'T *DREAM* IT!

INTERESTING. I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT THESE IMAGES LATER.

YOU DID RECORD THEM, RIGHT?

WELL, IT ALL HAPPENED SO FAST...

I SEE: YOU DIDN'T START RECORDING. AFTER ALL, THERE WAS NOTHING TO RECORD!

IT WAS JUST ANOTHER CASE OF HALLUCINATIONS! STANLEY THOUGHT HE SAW SOMETHING. AND YOU, HEARING YOUR FRIEND RAVING ABOUT EYES AND TENTACLES, LET YOURSELF BE INFLUENCED BY HIM!

BUT I DON'T THINK I REMEMBER HIM SAYING ANYTHING, BEFORE HE...

YOU THINK OR YOU'RE SURE?

GOOD. THE CASE IS CLOSED. AND NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...

JUST A MOMENT, MISS! MAY I ASK A QUESTION?

FINE. BUT FIRST, ANSWER MINE... *WHO ARE YOU?*

MY NAME IS DONALD DUCK. I'M THE NEW HEAD OF SECURITY.

OH, REALLY? I COULDN'T TELL JUST BY LOOKING AT YOU.

DON'T BE FOOLED BY APPEARANCES. I PUNCH *ABOVE MY WEIGHT.*

I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHY YOU SAID THIS WAS *ANOTHER* CASE OF HALLUCINATION! HOW MANY TIMES HAS IT HAPPENED SO FAR?

MY FRIEND, THE SHIFTS HERE ARE *EXHAUSTING*. AND THE BASE STAFF ARE UNDER CONSIDERABLE *PRESSURE*. SO IT'S NOT SURPRISING IF THE STRESS AND TIREDNESS HAVE SOME *SIDE EFFECTS*.

A SUGGESTION, OF COURSE. WHICH I *ORDER* YOU TO FOLLOW.

IN ANY CASE, THESE DISORDERS ARE ONLY TEMPORARY, SO THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!

IS THAT A SUGGESTION OR AN *ORDER?*

VERY PLEASANT, THIS DOCTOR KRAVER. ABOUT AS PLEASANT AS A *HAMMER BLOW* TO THE SHIN!

SHE MIGHT SEEM A LITTLE TOUGH AT TIMES. ACTUALLY, SHE'S *VERY* TOUGH! BUT SHE'S THE BEST IN HER FIELD!

AND WHAT EXACTLY WOULD THIS FIELD BE? MY *INFALLIBLE INSTINCT* TELLS ME IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE *SEA*.

PLEASE, DON'T PRESS IT. I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU I'M NOT AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE *DETAILED INFORMATION*.

OKAY, OKAY! I WAS JUST MAKING CONVERSATION!

BUT I CAN REVEAL TO YOU THAT WE'RE ALMOST AT THE STAFF QUARTERS.

OOOH?!

AAAAH!

GRWOOOORGH

LET ME GO!

HMM! I'M GUESSING "GRWOOORGH" MEANS *NO!*

LET'S TRY A MORE *CONVINCING* ARGUMENT!

SWISH

BBZZZZZZ

WAAARGH

HEE! HEE!

HUH?

TUMP

OUCH!

WHAT A KNOCK! MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE SWITCHED ON THE SHIELD'S REACTORS! BUT I CAN'T ALWAYS THINK OF EVERY-THING!

PAWRGH

AWAY!

WOOP

SLASH

COME ON! YOU'RE SO *HUGE*, AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF PICKING ON A POOR DEFENSELESS LITTLE DUCK?

GWORG

WELL, MORE "POOR" THAN "DEFENSELESS"!

BZWAP

GGGURK

GGGH

THE *BRADIONIC PARALYZER* HAS GIVEN ME A NICE FREEZE-FRAME EFFECT! BUT IT'S ONLY TEMPORARY!

I'D BETTER BE FAR AWAY WHEN *MISTER TENTACLES* GETS MOVING AGAIN! HE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE SOMEONE WHO CAN TAKE A *JOKE!*

WOOMP

JUST A MINUTE! HOW DID I END UP HERE?!

MAYBE I'VE GONE CRAZY... AND I'M TALKING TO MYSELF!

BUT ALL THE *SUPERHEROES* DO!

THERE'S THE EXIT! AT LEAST I'LL BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF HERE!

HUH?

FWOOMP

SPLASH

AAAH!

DONALD! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

YES... I THINK SO.

I MUST HAVE BEEN *HALLUCINATING* TOO! HOW LONG WAS I OUT?

JUST A FEW SECONDS! I TURNED AROUND AND SAW YOU THERE, YOUR EYES LIFELESS...

SO I GAVE YOU A SHAKE AND YOU *SCREAMED IN TERROR!*

LOOKS PRETTY BAD FOR A HEAD OF SECURITY!

DON'T WORRY! I HAVE THE FEELING THAT YOU'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO SHOW HOW *BRAVE* YOU ARE, SOONER OR LATER!

WELL, I'D BE HAPPY WITH *LATER!*

"AT THIS POINT, I THINK SOME *EXPLANATIONS* MIGHT BE IN ORDER..."

... FOR EXAMPLE, YOU COULD START BY TELLING ME WHY I'M HERE, IF THAT'S NOT TOO MUCH TO ASK!

AM I MISTAKEN, OR DO I SENSE A SLIGHT NOTE OF IRRITATION IN YOUR TONE?

YOU ARE MISTAKEN! IT'S *NOT* SLIGHT!

I TOLD YOU VERY LITTLE BEFORE, BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO HAVE AN *OPEN MIND*, FREE FROM FEARS AND PREJUDICES!

AND OPEN TO A NICE HALLUCI-NATION!

RIGHT, A HALLUCINATION OR MAYBE, IT WOULD BE MORE CORRECT TO CALL IT A MESSAGE!

A *MESSAGE* FROM WHOM? A PHONE CALL WOULDN'T DO?

AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE PROBLEM IS PRECISELY COMMUNICATION, WHICH IN THIS CASE WAS NOT VER-BAL, BUT *MENTAL!*

RIGHT, I SEE... THOUGHT TRANS-MISSION!

YES, DONALD... ALTHOUGH, TELEPATHY IS THE CORRECT TERM.

LET'S NOT SPLIT HAIRS!

FINE, LET'S GET BACK TO THE POINT. OR, RATHER, TO A NIGHT MANY YEARS AGO...

"A STORMY NIGHT. AS MANY ARE, AROUND THESE PARTS."

KRAK

"BUT THAT NIGHT, SOMETHING MORE THAN RAIN FELL FROM THE SKY!"

WOOOSSH

CAPTAIN! WHAT'S THAT?

DAMNED IF I KNOW!

WOOOSSH

CRASH

AAAAAAH!

HELP!

NO!

"INCREDIBLY, EVERYONE SURVIVED..."

CAPTAIN KRAVER AND HIS CREW WOKE UP A FEW HOURS LATER ON A BEACH A HUNDRED MILES AWAY, WITH NO IDEA OF HOW THEY GOT THERE!

HEY, JUST A MINUTE! WHAT WAS THAT CAPTAIN CALLED?!

YES, DONALD, YOU'VE GOT IT. HE WAS *DOCTOR KRAVER'S* FATHER!

NOBODY BELIEVED HIS STORY. CERTAIN JOURNALISTS INSINUATED THAT THE *FLYING SAUCER* WAS A "SIDE EFFECT" OF THE SHIPWRECK!

!

BUT HIS DAUGHTER BELIEVED HIM, RIGHT?

I GUESS SO.

NOW YOU SEE WHY I BECAME *SUSPICIOUS* WHEN I HEARD ABOUT THE PROTEUS PROJECT... AND WHO WAS RUNNING IT!

OFFICIALLY, THEY'RE JUST DOING SOME KIND OF UNSPECIFIED ***MINING RESEARCH***. BUT I THINK THAT HELEN KRAVER AND HER ASSOCIATES ARE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ELSE.

YOU MEAN THEY'RE HUNTING FOR ***ALIENS?***

HMM! THESE HALLUCINATIONS COULD MEAN THAT THE ALIEN CREATURES ARE ***CLOSE BY*** AND TRYING TO SEND A MESSAGE...

MAYBE THEY WANT TO SCARE US, SO WE LEAVE THEM ALONE!

THAT'S LIKELY. BUT THE HEAD OF THE PROTEUS PROJECT IS NOT PREPARED TO LISTEN TO THEIR SUGGESTIONS. ACTUALLY, SHE'S PRETENDING NOT TO HEAR THEM!

I'M AFRAID WE'RE ABOUT TO REACH A ***BREAKING POINT***, MY FRIEND, AND THEN WE'RE GOING TO NEED ***SUPERDUCK!***

BREAKING POINT? IN WHAT SENSE?

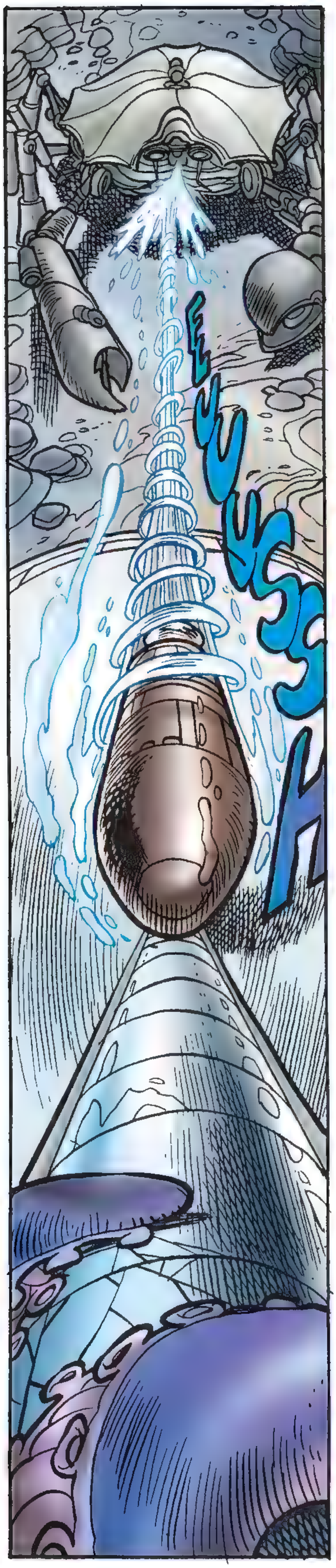
K-KRRR

GRWOORGH

GRAAA

KKKKEEEEE

AAAA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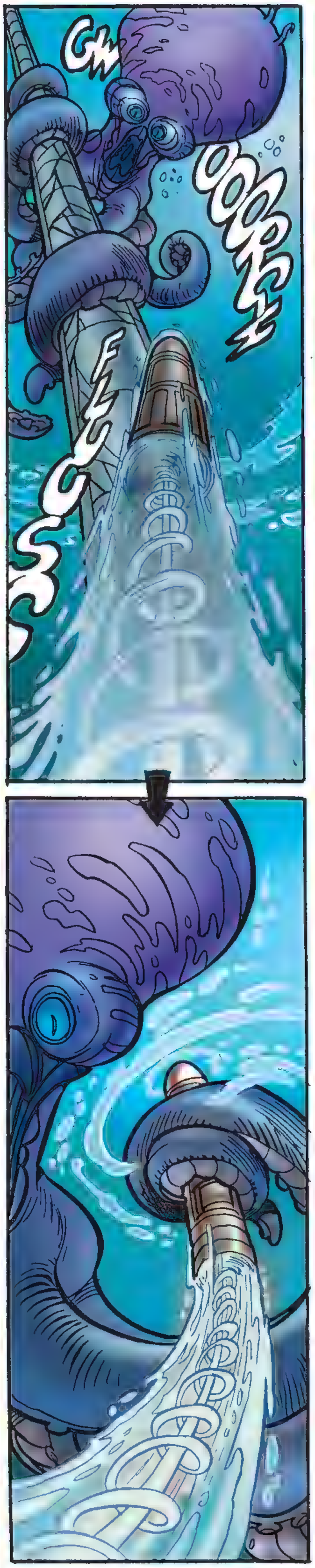
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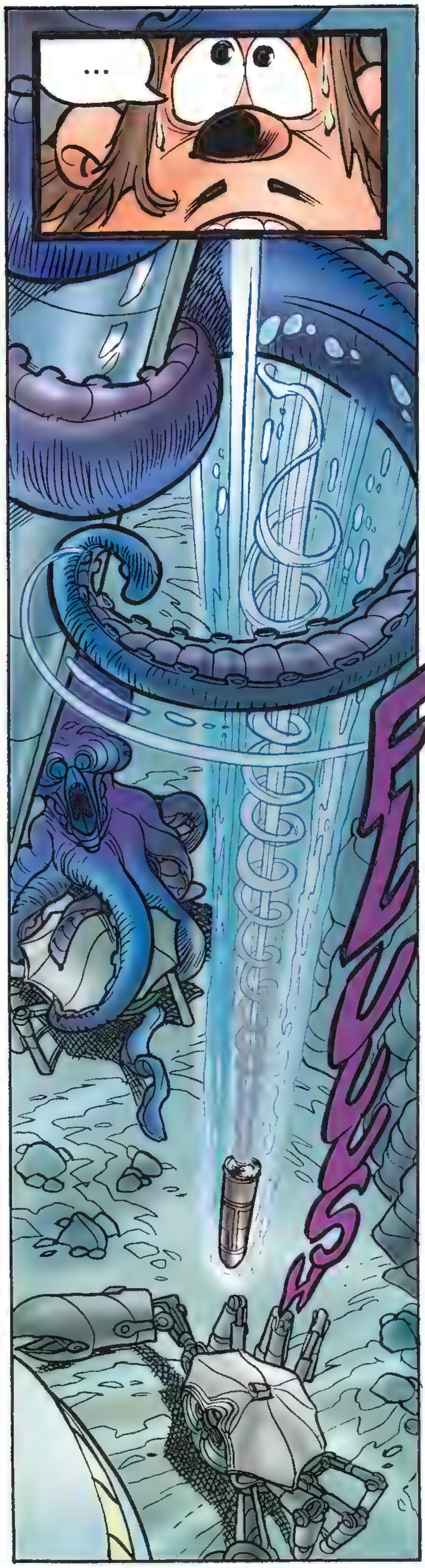
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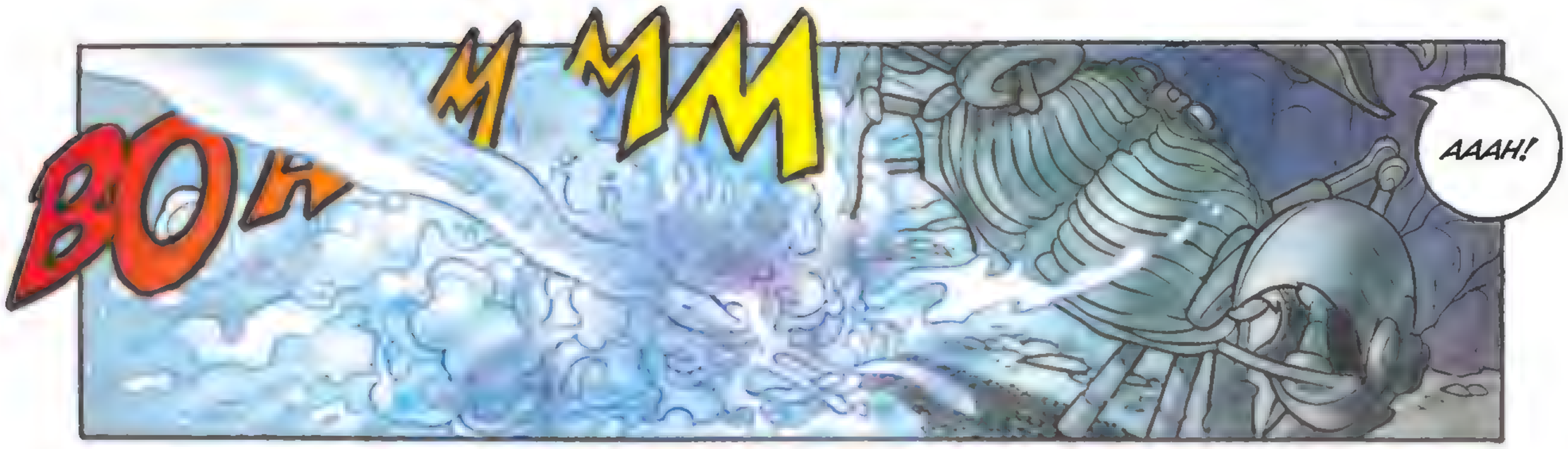
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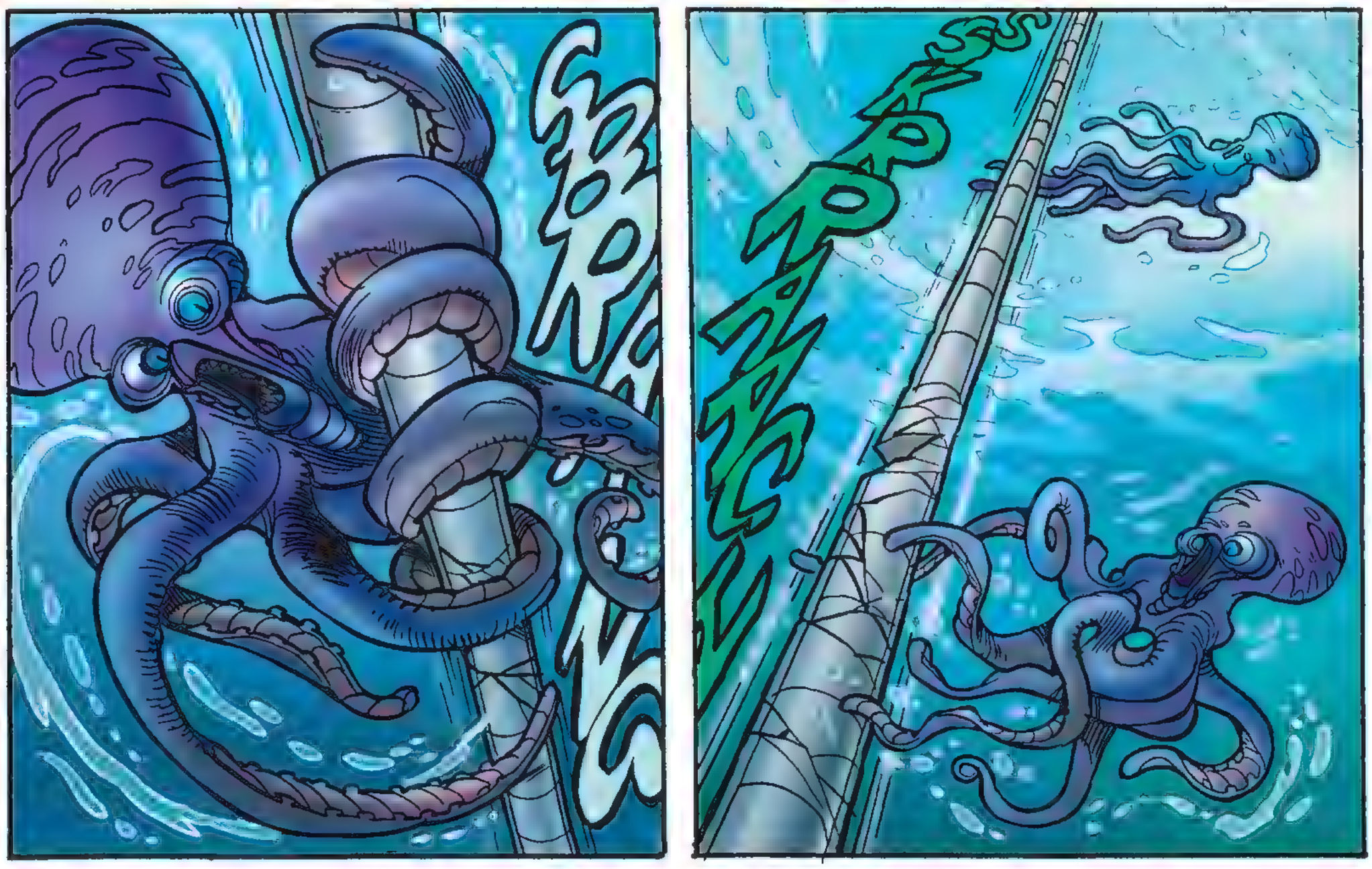
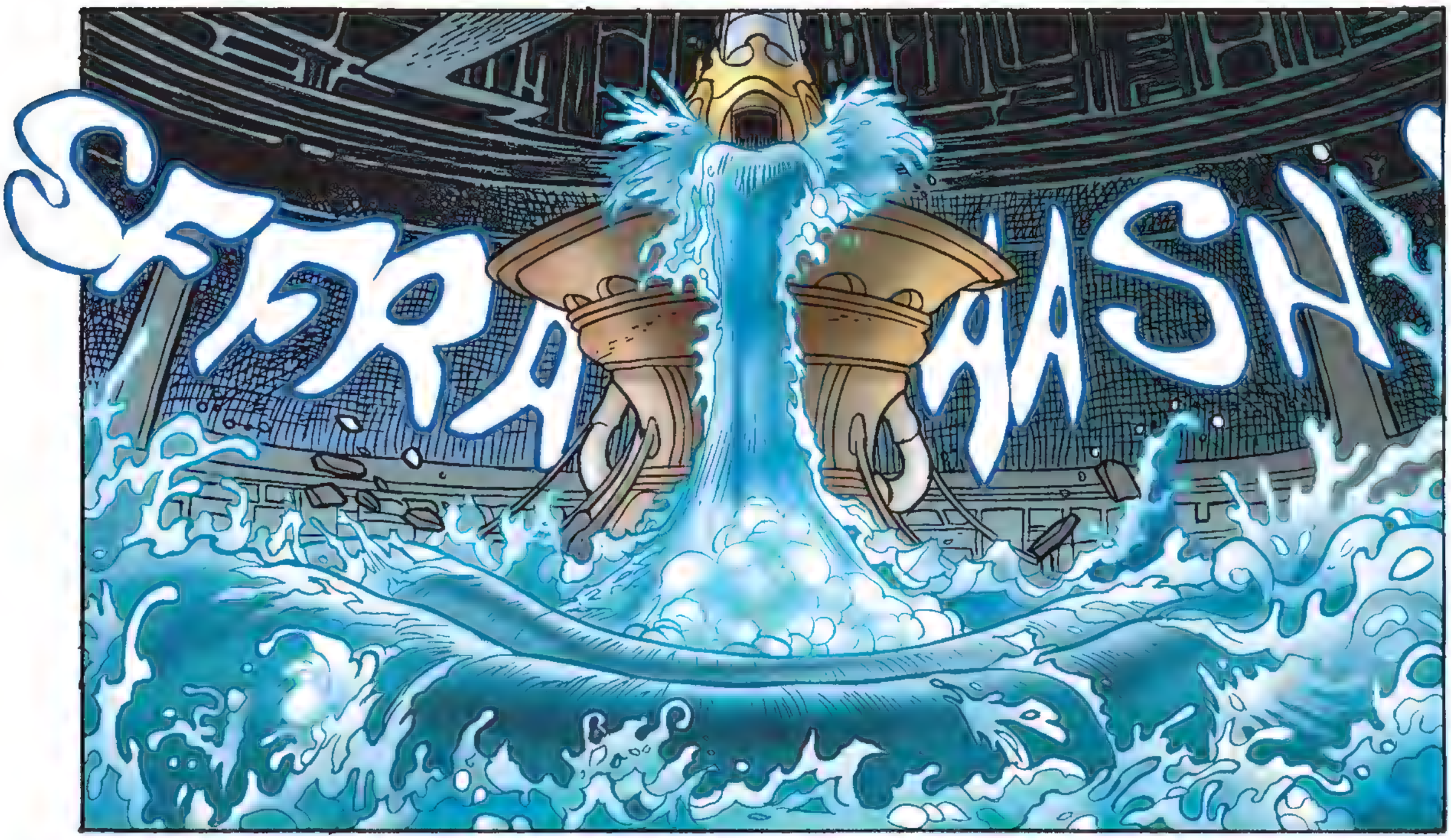
AAAH!


CRASH
SPLASH


SPLASH

WAAASH!

RRRRR

SPLASH!

DOCTOR KRAVER! WHAT DO WE DO?!

I WANT EVERYONE IN THE UNDERGROUND HANGAR. IT'S THE SAFEST PLACE. ISSUE THE ORDERS OVER THE LOUDSPEAKERS!

WE SHOULD ALSO CALL FOR *HELP*...

GOOD IDEA, WILL. TOO BAD THE MONSTERS HAVE ALREADY DESTROYED THE RADIO SWITCH-BOARD.

BUT THE NEW HEAD OF SECURITY... WHERE DID HE GO?!

WHY DO YOU CARE? YOU THINK THAT DUCK CAN BE OF ANY *USE*?

SKREEEK

SBRANG

KRRAAK

GRWWORGH?

WORSHIP

THAT'S RIGHT!

BZZHAPP

HEE, HEE!

?!

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!

SMASH

SBAM

WOOORGH

HEY!

LOOKS LIKE THOSE TWO GUYS HAVE A PROBLEM!

AND I'M THE *SOLU-TION!*

NO! IT'S NOT FAIR! THIS IS THE SECOND TIME TODAY!

PUT HIM DOWN, BRUTE!

BZZAAAP

TUMP

GROWG

BAH! I'M ALMOST DIS-APPOINTED! THAT WAS TOO *EASY!*

RIGHT... FORGET WHAT I SAID.

NOOO!

MMMGH?

AAAH?!

DON'T BE AFRAID, SUPER-DUCK. WE'RE YOUR *FRIENDS*.

WE SAVED YOU FROM THE *KRUL-LERS*. THEY WERE ABOUT TO CAPTURE YOU, AFTER YOU COLLAPSED IN *FEAR*.

W-WHAT?

WELL, YES... I BELIEVE I DID HAVE A SLIGHT FAINTING SPELL, BECAUSE OF THE CHANGE OF AIR... I MEAN, WATER...

YOU MUST BE THE *ALIENS!* THE ONES WHO CAME WITH THE *FLYING SAUCER!*

RIGHT... THIS SPACESHIP BROKE DOWN A FEW DAYS AGO, AND WE *CRASHED* ON EARTH.

A FEW DAYS? I THOUGHT IT WAS YEARS AGO!

WE, INHABITANTS OF *ALBORN*, HAVE A DIFFERENT PERCEPTION OF TIME FROM YOU TERRESTRIALS, SUPERDUCK!

SO YOU KNOW MY NAME! YOU READ MY MIND, RIGHT?

EXACTLY. WE KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU... AND ABOUT DONALD.

ANYWAY, YOU CAN STOP SPEAKING! WE'RE COMMUNICATING TELEPATHICALLY, DIDN'T YOU REALIZE?

THAT'S WHAT I WAS STARTING TO SUSPECT.

EXCELLENT! NOW THAT YOUR MIND IS OPEN, IT'LL BE EASIER TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING TO YOU!

THE BEINGS YOU WERE FIGHTING AGAINST ARE CALLED KRULLERS. WE WERE TAKING THEM BACK TO THEIR PLANET WHEN THE SPACESHIP'S *ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE* BROKE DOWN.

THESE SPECIMENS HAD ENDED UP ON OUR PLANET BY *MISTAKE* ON A SPACE FREIGHTER. AND THEY CAUSED A LOT OF DAMAGE BEFORE WE CAUGHT THEM!

WHEN WE CRASHED HERE, THE KRULLERS MANAGED TO ESCAPE AND ADAPT TO THE ENVIRONMENT. SINCE THEN, WE'VE BEEN KEEPING THEM AT BAY WITH *OUR WEAPONS*.

BUT THEY'RE STILL VERY *DANGEROUS*, PARTICULARLY FOR YOU TERRESTRIALS. WE TRIED TO WARN YOU...

OF COURSE! THOSE *HALLUCINATIONS* WERE AN ALARM SIGNAL!

"BUT YOU DIDN'T LISTEN. IF IT WASN'T FOR US, ONE OF YOUR *EXPLORERS* WOULD HAVE COME TO A BAD END TODAY..."

"A LITTLE LATER, THE SITUATION DETERIORATED, AND NOW WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO HELP YOU."

IT'S ALL THE FAULT OF THE SPACESHIP'S *ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE!* IF ONLY WE COULD GET IT GOING JUST LONG ENOUGH TO NEUTRALIZE THESE MONSTERS AND TAKE OFF... THEN WE COULD FLY IT WITH THE *MANUAL CONTROLS!*

A QUESTION, PLEASE: DO YOU NEED YOUR OWN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE... OR COULD YOU USE A *DIFFERENT* ONE?

A LIFE'S WORK, DESTROYED IN A *FEW HOURS.*

AND YET THIS IS A SUCCESS FOR ME. PROOF THAT *MY FATHER* WAS TELLING THE TRUTH.

DO YOU THINK THOSE CREATURES CAME FROM OUTER SPACE, DOCTOR KRAVER?

THEY'RE CERTAINLY NOT OF THIS WORLD, WILL.

TOO BAD THE GOVERNMENT WILL NEVER ALLOW THESE IMAGES TO BE MADE PUBLIC. THOUGH I SUPPOSE PEOPLE WOULD JUST THINK THEY WERE SPECIAL EFFECTS FROM A *SCIENCE-FICTION* MOVIE!

YOU'RE RIGHT, DOCTOR...

... NOW THERE'S EVEN A *FLYING SAUCER!*

WOOOSH

GRAWWWR

WARP

GOOD! NOW START THE HAULING RAY!

COME ON, ONE! YOU CAN DO IT!

OKAY!

BBBZZZZZ

GWARGH

WARGH

WOOMP

WWWWWWOOOOOOOOSSSSSSHHHHHHHH

SQUAWK?

WWOOOOSSSSHHHHHH

WOOOSH

SQUAWK?!

BON VOYAGE, FRIENDS!

HOW DID YOU GET HERE?

YOU WEREN'T IN THE UNDERGROUND HANGAR... SO YOU COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN IN ONE OF THE *MODULES* WHEN WE LEFT!

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, FRIEND!

A MOMENT AGO I WAS IN THE PROTEUS BASE, ON THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN... AND THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN I WOKE UP HERE ON THIS BEACH!

HMM! AND I'M SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THAT, DONALD?

YES, WILL. YOU *HAVE* TO BELIEVE IT! CONSIDER IT AN ORDER.

A LONG TIME AGO, I ALSO HEARD AN UNBELIEVABLE STORY, FROM MY FATHER. AND IT TURNED OUT TO BE *THE TRUTH.*

THE END

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